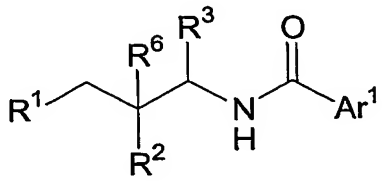
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of structural formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein;

R^1 is selected from:

(1) C_{1-10}alkyl,

(2) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl,

(3) cycloheteroalkyl,

(4) aryl, and

(5) heteroaryl,

wherein alky is optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^a, and each cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted on a carbon or nitrogen atom with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R^2 is selected from:

(1) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl,

(2) cycloheteroalkyl,

(3) aryl,

(4) heteroaryl,

(5) $-OR^d$,

(6) $-NR^cR^d$, and

(7) $-CO_2R^d$,

wherein each alkyl is optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^a, and each cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted on a carbon or nitrogen atom with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R^3 is selected from:

(1) hydrogen, and
(2) C_{1-4}alkyl,

wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

R^6 is selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-4}alkyl,
(3) C_{2-4}alkenyl,
(4) C_{2-4}alkynyl,
(5) $-OR^d$,
(6) halogen,
(7) -CN,
(8) $-NR^cR^d$,

wherein alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl are optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a

Ar^1 is selected from:

(1) aryl, and
(2) heteroaryl,

each optionally substituted on the carbon or nitrogen with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b;

each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) $-OR^c$,
(2) $-NR^cS(O)_mR^d$,
(3) $-NO_2$,
(4) halogen,
(5) $-S(O)_mR^c$,
(6) $-SR^c$,
(7) $-S(O)_2OR^c$,
(8) $-S(O)_mNR^cR^d$,
(9) $-NR^cR^d$,
(10) $-O(CR^eR^f)_nNR^cR^d$,
(11) $-C(O)R^c$,
(12) $-CO_2R^c$,

(13) $-CO_2(CR^eR^f)_nCONR^cR^d$,
(14) $-OC(O)R^c$,
(15) -CN,
(16) $-C(O)NR^cR^d$,
(17) $-NR^cC(O)R^d$,
(18) $-OC(O)NR^cR^d$,
(19) $-NR^cC(O)OR^d$,
(20) $-NR^cC(O)NR^cR^d$,
(21) $-CR^c(N-OR^d)$,
(22) CF_3,
(23) $-OCF_3$,
(24) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(25) cycloheteroalkyl, and
(26) oxo;

each R^b is independently selected from:
(1) R^a,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(4) cycloheteroalkyl,
(5) aryl,
(6) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(7) heteroaryl, and
(8) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl,

wherein alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with oxo, and wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with $-OR^c$, NR^cR^d, or $-C(O)R^c$;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:
(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) C_{2-10} alkenyl,
(4) C_{2-10}alkynyl,
(5) cycloalkyl,
(6) cycloalkyl-C_{1-10}alkyl,
(7) cycloheteroalkyl,

(8) cycloheteroalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl;
(9) aryl,
(10) heteroaryl,
(11) aryl-C_{1-10}alkyl, and
(12) heteroaryl-C_{1-10}alkyl, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,
or two -OR^c groups together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,
each R^c and R^d may be unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h;
R^e and R^f are independently selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) C_{2-10} alkenyl,
(4) C_{2-10}alkynyl,
(5) cycloalkyl,
(6) cycloalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl,
(7) cycloheteroalkyl,
(8) cycloheteroalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl,
(9) aryl,
(10) heteroaryl,
(11) arylC_{1-10} alkyl, and
(12) heteroarylC_{1-10} alkyl, or

R^e and R^f together with the carbon to which they are attached form a ring of 5 to 7 members containing 0-2 heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen;
each Rg is independently selected from

(1) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(2) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(3) cycloheteroalkyl,
(4) aryl,

(5) arylC$_{1-4}$alkyl,
(6) heteroaryl,
(7) heteroarylC$_{1-4}$alkyl,
(8) -S(O)$_m$R^e,
(9) -C(O)R^e,
(10) -CO$_2$R^e,
(11) -CO$_2$(CR^{e}R^f)$_n$CONR^{e}R^f, and
(12) -C(O)NR^{e}R^f;

each R^h is independently selected from:
(1) C$_{1-10}$alkyl,
(2) C$_{3-8}$cycloalkyl,
(3) cycloheteroalkyl,
(4) aryl,
(5) arylC$_{1-4}$alkyl,
(6) heteroaryl,
(7) heteroarylC$_{1-4}$alkyl,
(8) -OR^e,
(9) -NR^{e}S(O)$_m$R^f,
(10) -S(O)$_m$R^e,
(11) -SR^e,
(12) -S(O)$_2$OR^e,
(13) -S(O)$_m$NR^{e}R^f,
(14) -NR^{e}R^f,
(15) -O(CR^{e}R^f)$_n$NR^{e}R^f,
(16) -C(O)R^e,
(17) -CO$_2$R^e,
(18) -CO$_2$(CR^{e}R^f)$_n$CONR^{e}R^f,
(19) -OC(O)R^e,
(20) -CN,
(21) -C(O)NR^{e}R^f,
(22) -NR^{e}C(O)R^f,
(23) -OC(O)NR^{e}R^f,
(24) -NR^{e}C(O)OR^f,
(25) -NR^{e}C(O)NR^{e}R^f,

(26) CF_3, and

(27) $-OCF_3$,

m is selected from 1 and 2; and

n is selected from 1, 2, and 3;

provided that when R^1 is phenyl, naphthyl, or heteroaryl, R^2 is phenyl and R^3 is hydrogen, then Ar^1 is not unsubstituted phenyl and is not mono, di or tri- substituted phenyl with an R^b substituent selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, -C 1-6 alkyl, phenyl, -CN, $-NO_2$, $-CO_2H$, $-C(O)C_{1-6}$alkyl, $-CO_2C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $-C(O)NH_2$, -C(O)NH-heterocycloalkyl, $-NH_2$, -NH-heterocycloalkyl, furanyl, dihydrofuranyl, pyrrolidyl, dihydropyrrolidyl, and 1,3-dioxolan; and

provided that when R^1 is aryl, monosubstituted with halogen, $-OCH_3$ or $-CH_3$ or optionally di-substituted with halogen, R^2 is aryl, optionally mono- or di- substituted with halogen, and R^3 is hydrogen, then Ar^1 is not unsubstituted 4-pyridinyl; and

provided that when R^1 and R^2 are unsubstituted aryl or unsubstituted heteroaryl, and R^3 is hydrogen or C 1-4 alkyl, then Ar^1 is substituted with at least one R^b substituent; and

provided that when R^1 is selected from the group consisting of unsubstituted phenyl, *para*-chlorophenyl or *para*–methoxy phenyl, R^2 is unsubstituted phenyl, and R^3 is $-CH_3$, then Ar^1 is not unsubstituted phenyl, *ortho*—CO_2H monosubstituted phenyl, or 3,4-dimethoxy phenyl.

2. The compound according to Claim 1 wherein:

R^1 is selected from:

(1) C_{1-10}alkyl,

(2) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl,

(3) cycloheteroalkyl,

(4) aryl, and

(5) heteroaryl,

wherein alky is optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^a, and each cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl

and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R^2 is selected from:

(1) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl,
(2) cycloheteroalkyl,
(3) aryl,
(4) heteroaryl,
(5) $-OR^d$,
(6) $-NR^cR^d$, and
(7) $-CO_2R^d$,

wherein each alkyl is optionally substituted with one , two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^a, and each cycloalkyl, and cycloheteroalkyl aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^b;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. The compound according to Claim 2 wherein:

Ar^1 is selected from:

(1) phenyl,
(2) naphthyl,
(3) thienyl,
(4) furanyl,
(5) pyrrolyl,
(6) oxazolyl,
(7) isoxazolyl,
(8) 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl,
(9) 1,2,5-thiadiazolyl,
(10) thiazolyl,
(11) pyrazolyl,
(12) triazolyl,
(13) tetrazolyl,
(14) benzothienyl,
(15) benzofuranyl,
(16) benzoxazolyl,
(17) benzimidazolyl,

(18) benzothiazolyl,
(19) indanyl,
(20) indenyl,
(21) indolyl,
(22) imidazo[1,2-a]pyridinyl,
(23) β-carbolinyl,
(24) 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-β-carbolinyl,
(25) tetrahydronaphthyl,
(26) 4,5,6,7-tetrahydroindazolyl,
(27) 2,3-dihydrobenzofuranyl,
(28) dihydrobenzopyranyl,
(29) 1,4-benzodioxanyl,
(30) pyridinyl,
(31) pyrimidinyl,
(32) pyrazinyl,
(33) quinolinyl,
(34) isoquinolinyl,
(35) quinazolonyl,
(36) quinazolinyl,
(37) 1,8-naphthyridinyl,
(38) 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1,8-naphthyridinyl,
(39) pyrido[3,2-b]pyridinyl,
(40) pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidinyl,
(41) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidinyl,
(42) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidonyl,
(43) benzopyrimidinyl,
(44) imidazolyl, and
(45) imidazolonyl,
each optionally substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. The compound according to Claim 3 wherein:

R^3 is C_{1-4}alkyl, optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

R^6 is selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) methyl,
(3) hydroxyl,
(4) halogen, and
(5) -CN,

wherein methyl is optionally substituted with one to three R^a substituents;

Ar^1 is selected from:

(1) phenyl,
(2) naphthyl,
(3) thienyl,
(4) isoxazolyl,
(5) 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl,
(6) thiazolyl,
(7) pyrazolyl,
(8) triazolyl,
(9) tetrazolyl,
(10) benzofuranyl,
(11) benzoxazolyl,
(12) benzimidazolyl,
(13) benzothiazolyl,
(14) imidazo[1,2-a]pyridinyl,
(15) 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-β-carbolinyl,
(16) 4,5,6,7-tetrahydroindazolyl,
(17) pyridinyl,
(18) pyrimidinyl,
(19) pyrazinyl,
(20) quinolinyl,
(21) isoquinolinyl,
(22) quinazolonyl,
(23) quinazolinyl,
(24) 1,8-naphthyridinyl,
(25) 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1,8-naphthyridinyl,
(26) pyrido[3,2-b]pyridinyl,

(27) pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidinyl,
(28) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidinyl,
(29) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidonyl,
(30) benzopyrimidinyl,
(31) imidazolyl, and
(32) imidazolonyl,
each optionally substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b;

each R^a is independently selected from:
(1) $-OR^c$,
(2) halogen,
(3) $-S(O)_mR^c$,
(4) $-SR^c$,
(5) $-S(O)_2OR^c$,
(6) $-S(O)_mNR^cR^d$,
(7) $-NR^cR^d$,
(8) $-C(O)R^c$,
(9) $-CO_2R^c$,
(10) -CN,
(11) $-C(O)NR^cR^d$,
(12) CF_3,
(13) $-OCF_3$,
(14) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(15) cycloheteroalkyl, and
(16) oxo;

each R^b is independently selected from:
(1) R^a,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) cycloheteroalkyl,
(4) aryl,
(5) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(6) heteroaryl, and
(7) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl,

wherein alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, heteroaryl are optionally substituted with oxo, and wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with -OR^c, NR^cR^d, or -$C(O)R^c$;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) cycloalkyl,
(4) cycloheteroalkyl,
(5) aryl,
(6) heteroaryl, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,

or two -OR^c groups together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,

each R^c and R^d may be unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. The compound according to Claim 4 wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from:

(1) phenyl, and
(2) pyridyl,

each optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R^3 is C_{1-4}alkyl, wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

R^6 is selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) methyl,
(3) hydroxyl,
(4) halogen, and
(5) –CN;

each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) -OR^c,
(2) halogen,
(3) -$S(O)_mR^c$,
(4) -NR^cR^d,
(5) -$C(O)R^c$,
(6) -CO_2R^c, and
(7) oxo;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. The compound according to Claim 5 wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from:

(1) phenyl,
(2) 4-fluorophenyl,
(3) 2-chlorophenyl,
(4) 3-chlorophenyl,
(5) 4-chlorophenyl,
(6) 4-cyanophenyl,
(7) 4-methylphenyl,
(8) 4-isopropylphenyl,
(9) 4-biphenyl,
(10) 4-bromophenyl,
(11) 4-iodophenyl,
(12) 2,4-dichlorophenyl, and
(13) 2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. The compound according to Claim 6 wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from phenyl and 4-chlorophenyl;

R^3 is methyl, wherein methyl is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^a;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. A compound selected from:

(1) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzofuran-2-carboxamide;
(2) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-3-chloro-2-naphthamide;
(3) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-isoxazole-5-carboxamide;
(4) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrido[3,2-b]pyridine-2-carboxamide;
(5) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrazole-3-carboxamide;
(6) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-thiazole-5-carboxamide;
(7) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-nicotinamide;
(8) 2-(1-tetrazolyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(9) 3-(1-tetrazolyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(10) 4-(1-tetrazolyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(11) 5-methyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-thiazole-4-carboxamide;
(12) 2-phenyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(13) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrazine-2-carboxamide;
(14) 3-(1-(3,5-dimethyl-pyrazolyl))-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(15) 4-(1-(pyrrolidin-2-one))-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(16) 3-(1-(imidazolidin-2-one))-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(17) 4-phenyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(18) 6-bromo-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-picolinamide;
(19) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-isonicotinamide;
(20) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-picolinamide;
(21) 4-methyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-1,2,5-oxadiazole-3-carboxamide;
(22) 3-(1-(pyrrolidin-2-one))-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(23) 2-bromo-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-isonicotinamide;
(24) 3-phenyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(25) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrimidine-4-carboxamide;
(26) 4-(1-pyrazolyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(27) 2-(1-pyrazolyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

(28) 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-carbazole-3-carboxamide;

(29) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-1H-quinazolin-2-one-4-carboxamide;

(30) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzoxazole-2-carboxamide;

(31) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidine-6-carboxamide;

(32) 2,4-dimethyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidine-6-carboxamide;

(33) 4-(1-piperidinyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

(34) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrimidine-5-carboxamide;

(35) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrido(1,2-a)pyrimidine-4-one-5-carboxamide;

(36) 4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-indazole-3-carboxamide;

(37) 5-fluoro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzimidazole-2-carboxamide;

(38) 5-phenyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrazole-3-carboxamide;

(39) 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-1,8-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide;

(40) 1-methyl-3-ethyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrazole-5-carboxamide;

(41) 1-methyl-3-propyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrazole-5-carboxamide;

(42) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-quinoline-5-carboxamide;

(43) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-imidazo(1,2-a)pyridine-2-carboxamide;

(44) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-quinoline-4-carboxamide;

(45) 4-bromo-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-nicotinamide;

(46) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-isoquinoline-8-carboxamide;

(47) 3-bromo-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-picolinamide;

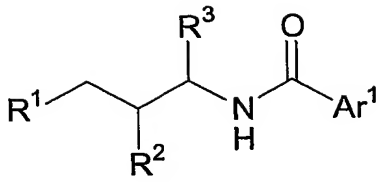
(48) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-isoquinoline-5-carboxamide;

(49) 4-(2-formyl-phenyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

(50) 4-(2-hydroxymethyl-phenyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(51) 4-(2-aminophenyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(52) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-2(3H)-imidazolone-4-carboxamide;
(53) 3-(1-tetrazolyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-isonicotinamide;
(54) 3,4-(ethylenedioxy)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-thiophene-2-carboxamide;
(55) 1-isopropyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrazole-4-carboxamide;
(56) 5-bromo-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-picolinamide;
(57) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-1,8-naphthyridine-2-carboxamide;
(58) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzothiazole-2-carboxamide;
(59) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzimidazole-2-carboxamide;
(60) 5-chloro-2-(2-(1-pyrrolyl)ethyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(61) 2-(2-phenylethyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(62) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-naphthylene-2-carboxamide;
(63) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-quinoline-5-carboxamide;
(64) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-naphthylene-1-carboxamide;
(65) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(66) 2-chloro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(67) 3-chloro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(68) 4-chloro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
(69) 3,5-dichloro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-isonicotinamide;
(70) *N*-[2-(3-pyridyl)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-benzamide;
(71) *N*-[2-(2-pyridyl)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-benzamide;
(72) *N*-[2-(4-pyridyl)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-benzamide; and
(73) *N*-[3-(3-chloro-2-pyridyl)-2-phenyl-1-methylpropyl]-benzamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. A compound of structural formula IA:



(IA)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein;

R^1 is selected from:

(1) aryl, and

(2) heteroaryl,

wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted on the carbon or nitrogen with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R^2 is selected from:

(1) aryl, and

(2) heteroaryl,

wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted on the carbon or nitrogen with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R^3 is selected from:

(1) hydrogen, and

(2) C_{1-4}alkyl,

wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

Ar^1 is selected from:

(1) aryl, and

(2) heteroaryl,

each optionally substituted on the carbon or nitrogen with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b;

each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) $-OR^c$,

(2) $-NR^cS(O)_mR^d$,

(3) $-NO_2$,

(4) halogen,

(5) $-S(O)_mR^c$,

(6) -SR^c,
(7) -$S(O)_2OR^c$,
(8) -$S(O)_mNR^cR^d$,
(9) -NR^cR^d,
(10) -$O(CR^eR^f)_nNR^cR^d$,
(11) -$C(O)R^c$,
(12) -CO_2R^c,
(13) -$CO_2(CR^eR^f)_nCONR^cR^d$,
(14) -$OC(O)R^c$,
(15) -CN,
(16) -$C(O)NR^cR^d$,
(17) -$NR^cC(O)R^d$,
(18) -$OC(O)NR^cR^d$,
(19) -$NR^cC(O)OR^d$,
(20) -$NR^cC(O)NR^cR^d$,
(21) -$CR^c(N\text{-}OR^d)$,
(22) CF_3,
(23) -OCF_3,
(24) $C_{3\text{-}8}$cycloalkyl,
(25) cycloheteroalkyl, and
(26) oxo;

each R^b is independently selected from:

(1) R^a,
(2) $C_{1\text{-}10}$alkyl,
(3) $C_{3\text{-}8}$cycloalkyl,
(4) cycloheteroalkyl,
(5) aryl,
(6) aryl$C_{1\text{-}4}$alkyl,
(7) heteroaryl, and
(8) heteroaryl$C_{1\text{-}4}$alkyl,

wherein alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with oxo, and wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with -OR^c, NR^cR^d, or -$C(O)R^c$;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) C_{2-10} alkenyl,
(4) C_{2-10}alkynyl,
(5) cycloalkyl,
(6) cycloalkyl-C_{1-10}alkyl,
(7) cycloheteroalkyl,
(8) cycloheteroalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl;
(9) aryl,
(10) heteroaryl,
(11) aryl-C_{1-10}alkyl, and
(12) heteroaryl-C_{1-10}alkyl, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,
or two -OR^c groups together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,
each R^c and R^d may be unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h;
R^e and R^f are independently selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) C_{2-10} alkenyl,
(4) C_{2-10}alkynyl,
(5) cycloalkyl,
(6) cycloalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl,
(7) cycloheteroalkyl,
(8) cycloheteroalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl,
(9) aryl,
(10) heteroaryl,
(11) arylC_{1-10} alkyl, and
(12) heteroarylC_{1-10} alkyl, or

R^e and R^f together with the carbon to which they are attached form a ring of 5 to 7 members containing 0-2 heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen;

each Rg is independently selected from

(1) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(2) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(3) cycloheteroalkyl,
(4) aryl,
(5) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(6) heteroaryl,
(7) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(8) $-S(O)_mR^e$,
(9) $-C(O)R^e$,
(10) $-CO_2R^e$,
(11) $-CO_2(CR^eR^f)_nCONR^eR^f$, and
(12) $-C(O)NR^eR^f$;

each R^h is independently selected from:

(1) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(2) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(3) cycloheteroalkyl,
(4) aryl,
(5) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(6) heteroaryl,
(7) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(8) $-OR^e$,
(9) $-NR^eS(O)_mR^f$,
(10) $-S(O)_mR^e$,
(11) $-SR^e$,
(12) $-S(O)_2OR^e$,
(13) $-S(O)_mNR^eR^f$,
(14) $-NR^eR^f$,
(15) $-O(CR^eR^f)_nNR^eR^f$,
(16) $-C(O)R^e$,
(17) $-CO_2R^e$,

(18) $-CO_2(CR^eR^f)_nCONR^eR^f$,
(19) $-OC(O)R^e$,
(20) -CN,
(21) $-C(O)NR^eR^f$,
(22) $-NR^eC(O)R^f$,
(23) $-OC(O)NR^eR^f$,
(24) $-NR^eC(O)OR^f$,
(25) $-NR^eC(O)NR^eR^f$,
(26) CF_3, and
(27) $-OCF_3$,

m is selected from 1 and 2; and
n is selected from 1, 2, and 3;

provided that when R^1 is phenyl, naphthyl, or heteroaryl, R^2 is phenyl and R^3 is hydrogen, Ar^1 is not unsubstituted phenyl and is not mono, di or tri- substituted phenyl with an R^b substituent selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, -C 1-6 alkyl, phenyl, -CN, $-NO_2$, $-CO_2H$, $-C(O)C_{1-6}$alkyl, $-CO_2C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $-C(O)NH_2$, -C(O)NH-heterocycloalkyl, $-NH_2$, -NH-heterocycloalkyl, furanyl, dihydrofuranyl, pyrrolidyl, dihydropyrrolidyl, and 1,3-dioxolan; and

provided that when R^1 is aryl, monosubstituted with halogen, $-OCH_3$ or $-CH_3$ and optionally di-substituted with halogen, R^2 is aryl, optionally mono- or di- substituted with halogen, and R^3 is hydrogen, Ar^1 is not unsubstituted 4-pyridinyl; and

provided that when R^1 and R^2 are unsubstituted aryl or unsubstituted heteroaryl, and R^3 is hydrogen or C 1-4 alkyl, Ar^1 is substituted with at least one R^b substituent; and

provided that when R^1 is selected from the group consisting of unsubstituted phenyl, *para*-chlorophenyl or *para*–methoxy phenyl, R^2 is unsubstituted phenyl, and R^3 is $-CH_3$, Ar^1 is not unsubstituted phenyl, *ortho*—CO_2H monosubstituted phenyl, or 3,4-dimethoxy phenyl.

10. The compound according to Claim 9 wherein:
R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from:
(1) phenyl,

(2) naphthyl, and
(3) pyridyl,
each optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. The compound according to Claim 10 wherein:
Ar^1 is selected from:
(1) phenyl,
(2) naphthyl,
(3) thienyl,
(4) furanyl,
(5) pyrrolyl,
(6) oxazolyl,
(7) isoxazolyl,
(8) 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl,
(9) 1,2,5-thiadiazolyl,
(10) thiazolyl,
(11) pyrazolyl,
(12) triazolyl,
(13) tetrazolyl,
(14) benzothienyl,
(15) benzofuranyl,
(16) benzoxazolyl,
(17) benzimidazolyl,
(18) benzothiazolyl,
(19) indanyl,
(20) indenyl,
(21) indolyl,
(22) imidazo[1,2-a]pyridinyl,
(23) β-carbolinyl,
(24) 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-β-carbolinyl,
(25) tetrahydronaphthyl,
(26) 4,5,6,7-tetrahydroindazolyl,
(27) 2,3-dihydrobenzofuranyl,

(28) dihydrobenzopyranyl,
(29) 1,4-benzodioxanyl,
(30) pyridinyl,
(31) pyrimidinyl,
(32) pyrazinyl,
(33) quinolinyl,
(34) isoquinolinyl,
(35) quinazolonyl,
(36) quinazolinyl,
(37) 1,8-naphthyridinyl,
(38) 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1,8-naphthyridinyl,
(39) pyrido[3,2-b]pyridinyl,
(40) pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidinyl,
(41) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidinyl,
(42) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidonyl,
(43) benzopyrimidinyl,
(44) imidazolyl, and
(45) imidazolonyl,
each optionally substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. The compound of claim 11 wherein:

R^3 is selected from:

(1) hydrogen, and
(2) C_{1-4}alkyl,

wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

Ar^1 is selected from:

(1) phenyl,
(2) naphthyl,
(3) thienyl,
(4) isoxazolyl,
(5) 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl,
(6) thiazolyl,

(7) pyrazolyl,
(8) triazolyl,
(9) tetrazolyl,
(10) benzofuranyl,
(11) benzoxazolyl,
(12) benzimidazolyl,
(13) benzothiazolyl,
(14) imidazo[1,2-a]pyridinyl,
(15) 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-β-carbolinyl,
(16) 4,5,6,7-tetrahydroindazolyl,
(17) pyridinyl,
(18) pyrimidinyl,
(19) pyrazinyl,
(20) quinolinyl,
(21) isoquinolinyl,
(22) quinazolonyl,
(23) quinazolinyl,
(24) 1,8-naphthyridinyl,
(25) 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1,8-naphthyridinyl,
(26) pyrido[3,2-b]pyridinyl,
(27) pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidinyl,
(28) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidinyl,
(29) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidonyl,
(30) benzopyrimidinyl,
(31) imidazolyl, and
(32) imidazolonyl,

each optionally substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b;

each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) $-OR^c$,
(2) halogen,
(3) $-S(O)_mR^c$,
(4) $-SR^c$,
(5) $-S(O)_2OR^c$,
(6) $-S(O)_mNR^cR^d$,

(7) $-NR^cR^d$,
(8) $-C(O)R^c$,
(9) $-CO_2R^c$,
(10) -CN,
(11) $-C(O)NR^cR^d$,
(12) CF_3,
(13) $-OCF_3$,
(14) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(15) cycloheteroalkyl, and
(16) oxo;

each R^b is independently selected from:
(1) R^a,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) cycloheteroalkyl,
(4) aryl,
(5) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(6) heteroaryl, and
(7) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl,

wherein alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, heteroaryl are optionally substituted with oxo, and wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with $-OR^c$, NR^cR^d, or $-C(O)R^c$;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:
(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) cycloalkyl,
(4) cycloheteroalkyl,
(5) aryl,
(6) heteroaryl, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,

or two $-OR^c$ groups together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,

each R^c and R^d may be unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. The compound according to Claim 12, wherein:
R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from:
(1) phenyl, and
(2) pyridyl,
each optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;
R^3 is C_{1-4}alkyl, wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;
each R^a is independently selected from:
(1) $-OR^c$,
(2) halogen,
(3) $-S(O)_mR^c$,
(4) $-NR^cR^d$,
(5) $-C(O)R^c$,
(6) $-CO_2R^c$, and
(7) oxo;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. The compound according to Claim 13, wherein:
R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from:
(1) phenyl,
(2) 4-fluorophenyl,
(3) 2-chlorophenyl,
(4) 3-chlorophenyl,
(5) 4-chlorophenyl,
(6) 4-cyanophenyl,
(7) 4-methylphenyl,
(8) 4-isopropylphenyl,
(9) 4-biphenyl,
(10) 4-bromophenyl,

(11) 4-iodophenyl,
(12) 2,4-dichlorophenyl, and
(13) 2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. The compound according to Claim 14 wherein:
R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from phenyl and 4-chlorophenyl;
R^3 is methyl, wherein methyl is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^a;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. A composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

17. A composition comprising a compound according to Claim 8 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

18. A method of preventing obesity in a person at risk for obesity comprising administration to said person of about 0.001 to about 100 mg/kg of a compound according to Claim 1.

19. A method of preventing obesity in a person at risk for obesity comprising administration to said person of about 0.001 to about 100 mg/kg of a compound according to Claim 8.

20. A method of treating a disease mediated by the Cannabinoid-1 receptor comprising administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 to a patient in need of such treatment.

21. The method according to Claim 20 wherein the disease mediated by the Cannabinoid-1 receptor is selected from: psychosis, memory deficit, cognitive disorders, migraine, neuropathy, neuro-inflammatory disorders, cerebral vascular accidents, head trauma, anxiety disorders, stress, epilepsy, Parkinson's disease, schizophrenia, substance abuse disorders, constipation, chronic intestinal

pseudo-obstruction, cirrhosis of the liver, asthma, obesity, and other eating disorders associated with excessive food intake.

22. The method according to Claim 21 wherein the disease mediated by the Cannabinoid-1 receptor is an eating disorder associated with excessive food intake.

23. The method according to Claim 22 wherein the eating disorder asssociated with excessive food intake is selected from obesity, bulimia nervosa, and compulsive eating disorders.

24. The method according to Claim 23 wherein the eating disorder associated with excessive food intake is obesity.

25. The use of a compound according to Claim 1 for the manufacture of a medicament useful for the treatment of a disease mediated by the Cannabinoid-1 receptor in a human patient in need of such treatment.

26. The use according to Claim 25 wherein the disease mediated by the Cannabinoid-1 receptor is selected from: psychosis, memory deficit, cognitive disorders, migraine, neuropathy, neuro-inflammatory disorders, cerebral vascular accidents, head trauma, anxiety disorders, stress, epilepsy, Parkinson's disease, schizophrenia, substance abuse disorders, constipation, chronic intestinal pseudo-obstruction, cirrhosis of the liver, asthma, obesity, and other eating disorders associated with excessive food intake.

27. The use according to Claim 26 wherein the disease mediated by the Cannabinoid-1 receptor is an eating disorder associated with excessive food intake.

28. The use according to Claim 27, wherein the eating disorder asssociated with excessive food intake is selected from obesity, bulimia nervosa, and compulsive eating disorders.

29. The use according to Claim 28 wherein the eating disorder associated with excessive food intake is obesity.

30. The use of a compound according to Claim 1 for the manufacture of a medicament useful for the prevention of obesity in a person at risk therefore.